Oswald Held Solely Guilty; No JFK Plot 'Conspiracy'

Gannett News Service

The Warren Commission, directed to investigate the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, was appointed by President Johnson on Nov. 29 of that year.

Its members included Chief Justice Earl Warren, chairman; Sens. Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., and John Sherman Cooper, R-Ky.; Reps. Hale Boggs, D-La., and Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich.; Allen W. Dulles, former head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and John J. McCloy, chairman of the general advisory committee to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The commission's 888-page report was issued Sept. 27, 1964.

The Congressional Quarterly Almanac for 1964 said:

"From the mass of evidence, including the results of FBI test and the testimony of eyewitnesses, firearms and ballistic experts, and medical authorities, the commission found that the Assassination shots were fired 'from above and behind' the President, and more particularly from the 'sixth floor window at the southwest corner of the Texas School Book Depository Building."

"The conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald fired the shots was based on the following subsidiary findings: (1) He owned and possessed the rifle used; (2) he bought the rifle into the building on the morning of the assassination; (3) he was present at the time and at the window from which the shots were fired; (4) he killed Dallas policeman J.D. Tippit in an apparent attempt at escape; (5) He resisted arrest 'in the Texas theater by drawing a fully loaded pistol and attempting to shoot another officer; (6) he repeatedly lied to police concerning substantative matters during his 48 hours in the Dallas Police Department and jail; (7) he attempted to kill Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker (retired) April 10, 1963; (8) he possessed the capability with a rifle which would have enabled him to fire the shots."

The commission found "no credible evidence" that Oswald was "part of a conspiracy" to assassinate President Kennedy nor that he was aided in the planning or execution of his scheme.

It further ruled out the possibility that Jack Ruby and Oswald were acquainted, and could produce no grounds for believing that Ruby's killing of Oswald was part of a conspiracy.